



Last update 15/03/2021

## Greece

Membership to the Council of Europe	9 August 1949
Entry into force of the European Convention on Human Rights	28 November 1974
First case under supervision of execution	<b>Philis</b> (12750/87) Judgment final on 27 August 1991
Total number of cases transmitted for supervision since the entry into force of the Convention	1326
Total number of cases closed by final resolution	1208

### MAIN ISSUES BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS - ONGOING SUPERVISION\*

#### > Actions of security forces

**Ill-treatment by police forces and coastguards amounting to torture; lack of effective investigations.**

**Makaratzis** group (50385/99+)  
Judgment final on 20/12/2004

**Status of execution**  
Enhanced supervision

#### > Conditions of detention - medical care

**Inhuman and/or degrading treatment on account of poor detention conditions in overcrowded prisons** (excessive number of detainees per cells, no ventilation, no personal space, lack of medical care for sick detainees, etc.).

**Nisiotis** group (34704/08)  
Judgment final on 20/06/2011

**Status of execution**  
Enhanced supervision

#### > Foreigners - lawfulness of detention and reception conditions

**Degrading treatment of asylum seekers or irregular migrants on account of their conditions of detention in various detention facilities** (notably overcrowding, lack of bed, insufficient ventilation, lack or regular access to sanitary facilities, inadequate food allowances).

**M.S.S.** (30696/09)  
Judgment final on 21/01/2011

**Status of execution**  
Enhanced supervision

Lack of adequate arrangements for unaccompanied minors, notably an effective system of guardianship to protect this highly vulnerable category of persons.

**Rahimi** (8687/08)  
Judgment final on 05/07/2011

**Status of execution**  
Enhanced supervision

Deficiencies in asylum assessment procedure and risk of expulsion without serious examination of the merits of asylum application.

**Failure by the police to ascertain that the medical condition of an Afghan national, assaulted by a group of masked individuals (possibly on racist motives), allowed him to be placed in detention in view of expulsion.**

**Sakir** (48475/09)  
Judgment final on 24/06/2016

**Status of execution**

\* Detailed information concerning the Committee of Ministers' supervision of the execution of judgments and decisions of the European Court of Human Rights, notably the distinction between enhanced and standard supervision, are available on [the website of the Department for the Execution of Judgments](#).



## MAIN ISSUES BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS - ONGOING SUPERVISION\*

Inadequate conditions of detention and lack of effective remedy in this respect; ineffective investigations by the police and judicial authorities into the assaults.

Standard supervision

## &gt; Enforcement of final domestic judgments

**Non or delayed compliance of the Administration with domestic court judgments** mostly ordering the lifting of land expropriation orders interfering with the owners' right to peaceful use of their property.

**Beka-Koulocheri** (38878/03)  
Judgment final on 06/10/2006

**Status of execution**  
Enhanced supervision

## &gt; Freedom of association

**Authorities' refusal to register associations or dissolution of associations** from the Muslim minority in Thrace on the ground they were representing a danger for public order; disproportionate actions of the authorities as the associations did not advocate the use of violence or anti-democratic or anti-constitutional means.

**Bekir-Ousta** (35151/05)  
Judgment final on 11/01/2008

**Status of execution**  
Enhanced supervision

**Refusal to register the association "House of Macedonian Civilization"** on the grounds that the use of the word "Macedonian" and the purpose proclaimed in the association's statutes contravened public order and jeopardized the harmonious coexistence of the population of the Florina region.

**House of Macedonian Civilization and Others** (1295/10)  
Judgment final on 09/10/2015

**Status of execution**  
Enhanced supervision

## &gt; Freedom of expression

**Unjustified civil convictions inflicted for having offended**, mostly in articles published in the press, the plaintiffs **through defamation or insult.**

**Vasilakis** group (25145/05+)  
Judgment final on 17/04/2008

**Status of execution**  
Standard supervision

**Disproportionate criminal convictions for insult, defamation or malicious defamation.**

**Katrami** group (19331/05+)  
Judgment final on 06/03/2008

**Status of execution**  
Standard supervision



## SUPERVISION CLOSED - MAIN REFORMS ADOPTED \*\*

## &gt; Conditions of detention

The adoption of two laws led to an overall decrease of 20% of the prison population, thus putting an end to detention of criminal detainees in police stations for a period of more than one month and of persons remanded or detained pending trial or expulsion for more than the absolutely necessary period, i.e. 3-4 days.

*Siasios and Others* (30303/07)  
Judgment final on 04/09/2009

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2018)224

The Korydallos prison hospital has been included in the National Health System in 2016 so that adequate treatment of HIV-positive prisoners is ensured in appropriate material and hygiene conditions adapted to their vulnerable state of health. The overpopulation in the psychiatric wing was reduced.

*Martzaklis and Others* (20378/13)  
Judgment final on 09/10/2015

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2019)237

## &gt; Foreigners – Protection against ill-treatment – Forced labour

The new Criminal Code of 2019 consolidated the previous provisions criminalizing the offences of trafficking in human beings and sex trafficking and extended the scope of criminal liability as well as of victim protection.

*Chowdury and Others* (21884/15)  
Judgment final on 30/06/2017

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2020)179

## &gt; Foreigners - reception / expulsion

New legislation guaranteeing the prompt review of the legality of the detention in view of expulsion; introduction in 2012 of a maximum period of detention for persons subject to judicial expulsion, as well as time-limits for the judicial review of such detention.

*Mathloom* (48883/07)  
Judgment final on 24/07/2012

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2014)232

## &gt; Length of judicial proceedings

Adoption of several legislative reforms and measures in order to accelerate civil and criminal proceedings, including different time-limits as well as limitation to trial adjournments.

*Academy trading LTD and Others*  
(30342/96)  
Judgment final on 04/04/2000

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2005)64

Introduction of a compensatory remedy and adoption of organisational measures in 2014 in order to simplify and accelerate judicial proceedings.

As regards length of criminal proceedings, setting up of a single judge to deal with cases in Assize court and re-classification of certain offences into contraventions.

*Tarighi Wageh Dashti* group  
(24453/94+)  
Judgment final on 09/12/1994

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2005)66

As regards length of civil proceedings, replacement of oral proceedings by written proceedings in first instance; for appeals in cassation, a council of three members decide of the immediate rejection of inadmissible or manifestly ill-founded applications.

*Michelioudakis* group (54447/10+) and  
*Glykantzi* group (40150/09+)  
Judgments final on 03/07/2012 and  
30/01/2013

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2015)231

\*\* This section may also include certain major reforms already implemented in the context of cases still pending.

For a thorough overview of reforms adopted since the entry into force of Protocol No. 11 in 1998 see the [Annual Report 2015](#), Part IV "Main achievements". As regards the period 1959-1998, see the overview provided by the European Court in its special publication "Survey : 40 years of activity", section IV "Effects of judgments and decisions" – both documents, together with a number of additional ones, are available also on the website of the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.



## SUPERVISION CLOSED - MAIN REFORMS ADOPTED\*\*

**Administrative proceedings were reformed in 2013 to address procedural formalism and speed up proceedings** with a focus on the redistribution of competence between the Council of State and lower courts through the development of the practice of “pilot trial” and “model trial”.

*Vassilios Athanasiou and Others* group (50973/08+)  
Judgment final on 21/03/2011

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2015)230

## &gt; Enforcement of international judicial decisions

**Maintenance payments recovery in the context of the UN Convention of 1956 between EU members and third States** is regulated by the Council Regulation No. 4/2009 on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and cooperation in matters relating to maintenance obligations. A judicial decision issued in a member State of the European Union will be enforceable without the requirement of the exequatur.

*Matrakas and Others* (47268/06)  
Judgment final on 07/02/2014

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2015)173

## &gt; Freedom of religion

**The right to perform civilian, instead of military, service or unarmed service** in the army for conscientious objectors (who refuse to do military service on religious or ideological beliefs) was enshrined in the Constitution in 2001; the right to the removal from criminal records of sentences imposed on grounds of conscientious objection to armed and military service was legally recognised.

*Thlimmenos* (34369/97)  
Judgment final on 06/04/2000

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2005)89

## &gt; Protection of property

**Abrogation of the prerequisite of the children’s Greek nationality for acquiring the status of “mother of large family” and the subsequent pension right**, by legislative amendment in 2009.

*Zeïbek* (46368/06)  
Judgment final on 09/10/2009

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2012)34

**Reform in 2013 of the legal framework governing dormant deposit accounts; creation of an automated notification procedure** to inform dormant account holders of upcoming limitation period expiry before transferring the account to the State.

*Zolotas* (66610/09)  
Judgment final on 29/04/2013

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2014)58

**Introduction of an adequate compensation mechanism and strict deadlines to respect in expropriation proceedings**, following the adoption of the new Code of Expropriation in 2001. The Court of Cassation aligned itself with the European Court case-law; one court is competent to assess the overall consequences of an expropriation.

*Azas* group (50824/99)  
Judgment final on 21/05/2003

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2011)217

## &gt; Electoral rights

**Abrogation of the prohibition for members of Parliament to exercise another professional activity** in 2008; the amended Constitution provides that a special law could define certain professional activities whose exercise could be prohibited to members of Parliament.

*Lykourazos* (33554/03)  
Judgment final on 15/09/2006

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2010)171

## &gt; Discrimination against Roma

**In 2016, the importance of Roma children’s full integration into national education** was reaffirmed by the Minister for National Education referring to

*Sampani and Others* (59608/09)  
Judgment final on 29/04/2013



## SUPERVISION CLOSED - MAIN REFORMS ADOPTED\*\*

the circular of November 2013 giving Roma pupils the right to be enrolled in a school or transferred to another school without providing proof of residence. School principals were instructed to admit Roma children on the basis of the "school card" established for them, but also to seek out Roma children to ensure their enrolment.

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2017)96

**Special measures were adopted to facilitate the enrolment of Roma children in primary schools:** simplification of the procedure on a basis of simple declaration without filling certificates, special instruction to teachers and monitoring of the regular attendance.

*Sampanis and Others* (32526/05)  
Judgment final on 05/09/2008

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2011)119

**Adoption of measures aimed at including Roma children in the national education,** notably the introduction of a new education policy reinforcing the inclusion of socially most vulnerable groups; intervention of special mediators fluent in Romani to assist Roma families with education of their children and social workers in charge of psychological support.

> **Discrimination - same sex couples**

**A new law of 2015 extends the civil partnership to same-sex couples** ensuring equal treatment to all Greek citizens, irrespective of their sexual orientation.

*Vallianatos and Others* (29381/09)  
Judgment final on 07/11/2013

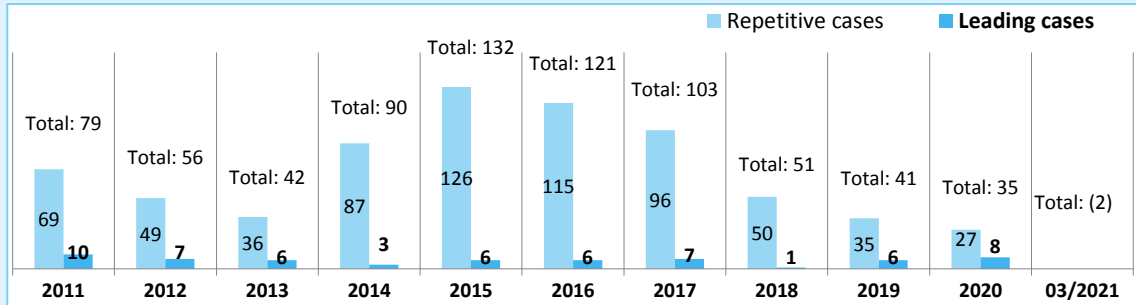
Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2016)275



# STATISTICS\*\*\*

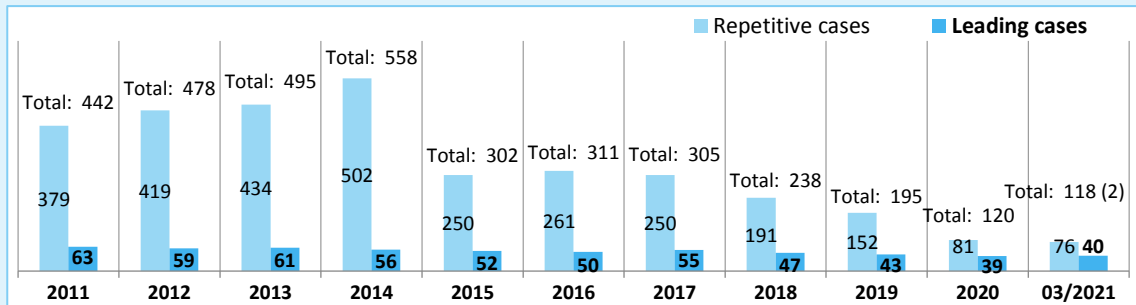
## New cases

(judgments transmitted for supervision of their execution during the year)



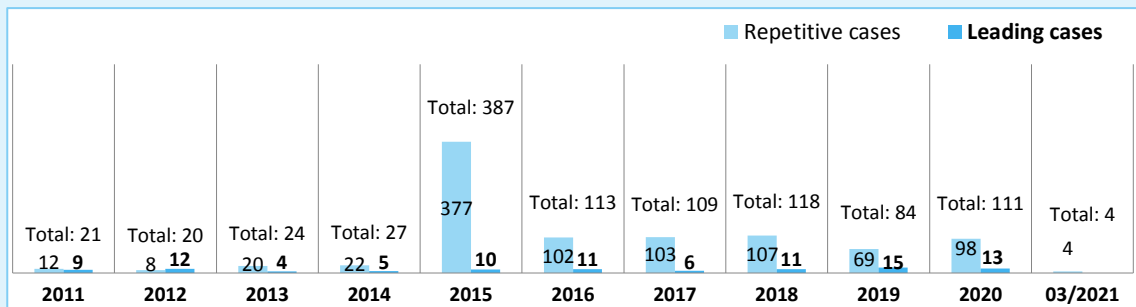
Figures bracketed correspond to the number of cases not yet classified as leading or repetitive, but they are taken into account in the total number of new cases.

## Pending cases

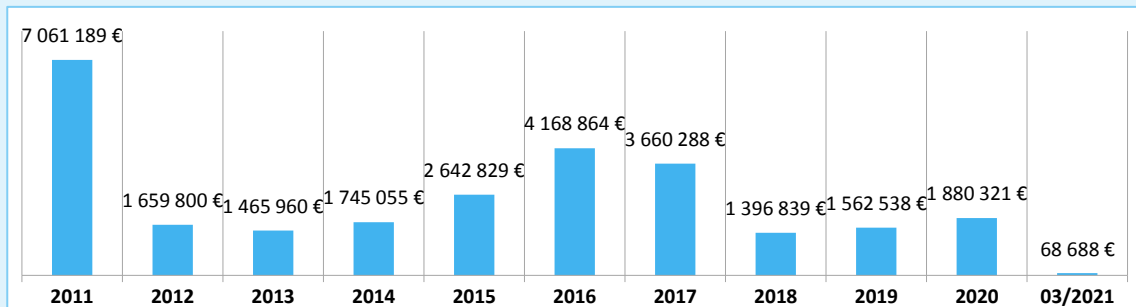


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## Cases closed by final resolution



## Just satisfaction awarded by the European Court



\*\*\* Detailed statistics are available in the [annual reports](#) of the Committee of Ministers. Figures are reported as they appear in the annual report for each year.